

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Claims 13 and 14 are objected to because of informalities. Claims 1-8 and 10-17 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-18 of U.S. Patent No. 6,633,567 to Brown. Claims 1, 8, 10 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Brown (U.S. Patent No. 6,775,281). Of the Claims, Claims 1 and 10 are independent. The applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

**Regarding objection to Claims 13 and 14**

With regard to the objection to claims 13 and 14, the Applicant has amended claim 13 to recite "The switch of claim 12" and claim 14 to recite "The switch of claim 13". Removal of the objection to claims 13 and 14 is respectfully requested.

**Regarding Double Patenting Rejection**

Claims 1-8 and 10-17 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-18 of U.S. Patent No. 6,633,567 to Brown.

The Applicant wishes to place this rejection in abeyance until the claims are otherwise allowable.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)**

Claims 1, 8, 10 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Brown (U.S. Patent No. 6,775,281).

The above-referenced application (Application No. 10/625,320) and Brown (U.S. Patent No. 6,775,281) have the same inventive entity (David A. Brown). Thus, Brown is not prior art under U.S.C. § 102(e) because it is not a patent "by another". (*See* MPEP 706.02(f).)

Removal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is respectfully requested.

Regarding allowable subject matter

Claims 9 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that Claims 9 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. However, the claims have not been amended because it is believed that the base claims are allowable for the reasons discussed above.

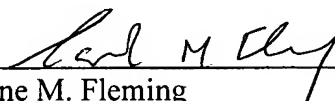
Accordingly, the present invention as now claimed is not believed to be anticipated or made obvious from the cited art or any of the prior art. Removal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and acceptance of Claims 1-18 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By   
Caroline M. Fleming  
Registration No. 45,566  
Telephone: (978) 341-0036  
Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

Concord, MA 01742-9133

Dated: 4/28/05

**Amendments to the Drawings**

A replacement drawing sheet is being submitted for Fig. 2B to correct typographical errors in reference signs. Reference sign 21b has been amended to 216 to correspond with reference sign 216 which is an ingress ports engine in the specification on page 8, line 15. Also, reference sign 21c has been amended to correspond with reference sign 210 which is forwarding logic in the specification on page 11, lines 2-3.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet  
Annotated Marked-Up Drawings

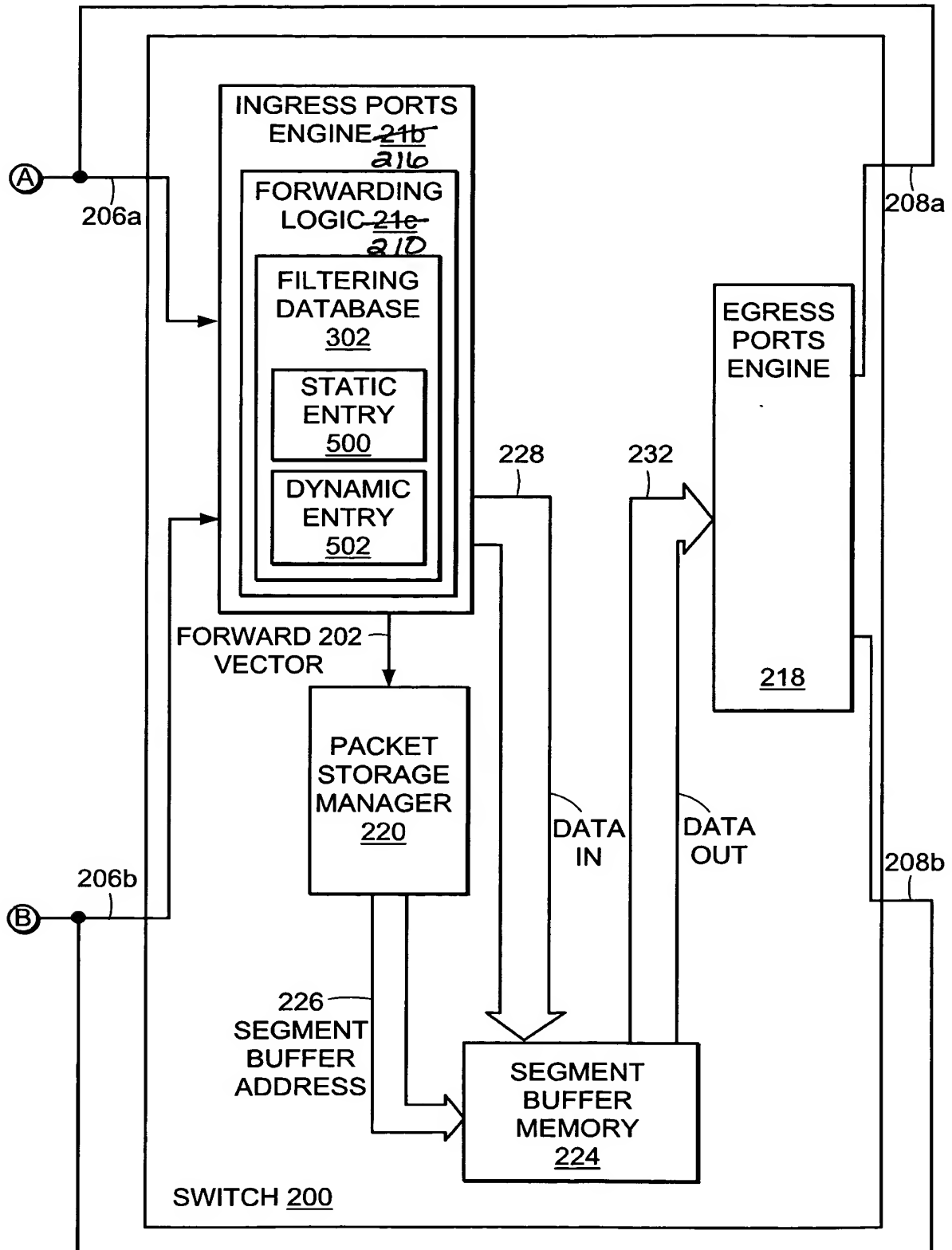


FIG. 2B